

# **Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Summary of 2021-23 Biennial Budget Request**

## **Provisions Related to Elementary and Secondary Education, Public Libraries, and Agency Operations**

**Prepared by the Policy and Budget Team  
Department of Public Instruction**



**November 2020**

**Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
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Madison, Wisconsin**



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## KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES

### Commonly Used Acronyms

- **CESA** – cooperative educational services agency
- **DIN** – decision item narrative
- **FTE** – full time equivalent
- **FY** – fiscal year
- **FED** – federal revenue
- **JCF** – Joint Committee on Finance
- **LEA** – local educational agency

### Fund Sources

- **GPR** – general purpose revenue
- **PR** – program revenue
- **PR-S** – program revenue-service
- **SEG** – segregated revenue

**FY21 Base** - The total FY21 authorized funding level for an agency or program. The base equals FY21 appropriations, pay plan modifications and any other supplements. It is this base that serves as the beginning point for calculating budget changes for the 2021-23 biennium.

### References to Members, Pupils, and Students

Throughout this document there are references to “student(s)”, “pupil(s)”, “member(s)”, and “membership”. These are all references to K-12 students, but the terms “member(s)” and “membership” reflect how students are counted under state law for purposes of state general equalization aid, certain categorical aids, and revenue limits.

Simply put, a district’s “membership” is the total full time equivalent (FTE) of students who are residents of the school district and for whom the district pays the cost of educating. As an example: a district’s “membership” includes residents who attend a public school in a different school district under the open enrollment program (and conversely, excludes non-resident students who attend a public school in the district under open enrollment). This is because each school district incurs a cost, via a reduction in its state general aid, for each resident student who enrolls into a public school in a different school district under the open enrollment program. State law provides for similar adjustments to a district’s membership for other circumstance as well.

The singular term “member” generally means 1.0 FTE pupil, unless otherwise stated (e.g., with respect to four-year-old kindergarten, which may reference 0.5 FTE or 0.6 FTE pupil).

**Membership for general equalization aid purposes** uses prior year data. A district’s total membership includes the average of the September and January pupil counts (converted to FTE), and adds in the district’s FTE pupils for summer school and interim session, as applicable. General aid membership now also includes resident students of the district who enroll in the Racine and the Wisconsin private school parental choice

programs (if the student first enrolled in those programs in the 2015-16 school year or after), and for a subset of independent charter schools. Finally, adjustments are made to reflect students enrolled part-time in the school district, in the Youth Challenge Academy program, and for some students in foster care placements.

**Membership for revenue limit purposes** uses current and prior year data. It is comprised of the three-year rolling average of FTE of the third Friday in September student count, plus 40 percent of summer school FTE (if applicable).

While general equalization aid membership is calculated differently than membership for revenue limit purposes, the concept of a member (a resident for whom the district pays the cost of educating) is the same for both purposes.

In this document, references to “pupil” (e.g., “per pupil adjustment”), in the context of state aids and revenue limits, has the same meaning as “member”, as described above.

**NOTE:** This document summarizes proposed changes to current law appropriations and programs that are included in the Department’s 2021-23 biennial budget request. The full request, with additional information for each item summarized below, can be found at: <https://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget/2021-23-biennial-budget>



## SUMMARY OF STATE SUPPORT FOR K-12 EDUCATION

	<u>FY21 - Base</u>	<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY22 to Base</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY23 to Base</u>	<u>Total Change to Base</u>
<b>Categorical Aid Programs</b>						
Per Pupil Aid	\$ 616,973,000	\$ 674,477,900	\$ 57,504,900	\$ 672,891,600	\$ 55,918,600	\$ 113,423,500
Special Education Categorical Aid	\$ 450,276,200	\$ 580,978,000	\$ 130,701,800	\$ 690,533,000	\$ 240,256,800	\$ 370,958,600
Achievement Gap Reduction Contracts	\$ 109,184,500	\$ 109,184,500	\$ -	\$ 109,184,500	\$ -	\$ -
Sparsity Aid	\$ 24,813,900	\$ 27,962,400	\$ 3,148,500	\$ 27,983,800	\$ 3,169,900	\$ 6,318,400
Pupil Transportation Aid	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 24,000,000	\$ -	\$ 24,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
High-Cost Transportation Aid	\$ 13,500,000	\$ 15,500,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 15,500,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 4,000,000
High-Cost Special Education Aid	\$ 9,353,800	\$ 12,340,000	\$ 2,986,200	\$ 19,065,200	\$ 9,711,400	\$ 12,697,600
Bilingual-Bicultural Aid	\$ 8,589,800	\$ 26,877,000	\$ 18,287,200	\$ 26,877,000	\$ 18,287,200	\$ 36,574,400
State Tuition Payments	\$ 8,242,900	\$ 8,242,900	\$ -	\$ 8,242,900	\$ -	\$ -
Mental Health School-Based Services Grant	\$ 6,500,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 7,000,000
Head Start Supplement	\$ 6,264,100	\$ 6,264,100	\$ -	\$ 6,264,100	\$ -	\$ -
Mental Health & Student Wellness Categorical Aid	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 28,500,000	\$ 22,500,000	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 46,500,000
Educator Effectiveness Grants	\$ 5,746,000	\$ 5,746,000	\$ -	\$ 5,746,000	\$ -	\$ -
School Lunch Match	\$ 4,218,100	\$ 4,218,100	\$ -	\$ 4,218,100	\$ -	\$ -
Aid for CCDEB's	\$ 4,067,300	\$ 4,067,300	\$ -	\$ 4,067,300	\$ -	\$ -
Special Education Transition Incentive Grant	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 3,600,000	\$ -	\$ 3,600,000	\$ -	\$ -
School Breakfast Grant	\$ 2,510,500	\$ 4,970,000	\$ 2,459,500	\$ 5,070,000	\$ 2,559,500	\$ 5,019,000
Supplemental Per Pupil Aid (new under Act 9)	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	\$ (2,500,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,500,000)	\$ (5,000,000)
Peer Review and Mentoring Grant	\$ 1,606,700	\$ 1,606,700	\$ -	\$ 1,606,700	\$ -	\$ -
Rural Teacher Talent Pilot Program	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -
Special Education Transition Readiness Grant	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 4,500,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 4,500,000
Summer School Programs Grant	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ -	\$ 1,400,000	\$ -	\$ -
4K Start Up Grant	\$ 1,350,000	\$ -	\$ (1,350,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,350,000)	\$ (2,700,000)
School Day Milk Grant	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
TEACH Debt Service Aid	\$ 832,300	\$ 832,300	\$ -	\$ 832,300	\$ -	\$ -
Robotics League Participation Grant	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -
Transportation Aid for Open Enrollment*	\$ 454,200	\$ 2,219,800	\$ 1,765,600	\$ 2,447,200	\$ 1,993,000	\$ 3,758,600
Transportation Aid for ECCP*	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000
Peer to Peer Support Grants	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -
Gifted and Talented Grant	\$ 237,200	\$ 237,200	\$ -	\$ 237,200	\$ -	\$ -
SAGE Debt Service Aid	\$ 133,700	\$ 133,700	\$ -	\$ 133,700	\$ -	\$ -
Supplemental Aid	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -
Afterschool/Out-of-School Time Program Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 20,000,000
EL- & BL-Licensed Educators Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000
Supplemental Nutrition Aid	\$ -	\$ 2,432,000	\$ 2,432,000	\$ 2,432,000	\$ 2,432,000	\$ 4,864,000
Drivers Education Aid	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,800,000	\$ 5,800,000	\$ 5,800,000
<b>GPR Categorical Aids</b>	<b>\$ 1,317,204,200</b>	<b>\$ 1,562,149,900</b>	<b>\$ 244,945,700</b>	<b>\$ 1,706,742,600</b>	<b>\$ 389,538,400</b>	<b>\$ 634,484,100</b>
Tribal Languages (PR)	\$ 222,800	\$ 222,800	\$ -	\$ 222,800	\$ -	\$ -
Aid for AODA (PR)	\$ 1,284,700	\$ 1,284,700	\$ -	\$ 1,284,700	\$ -	\$ -
<b>PR Categorical Aids</b>	<b>\$ 1,507,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,507,500</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,507,500</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
School Library Aids	\$ 40,300,000	\$ 40,300,000	\$ -	\$ 40,300,000	\$ -	\$ -
Educ Telecomm Access-DOA	\$ 15,984,200	\$ 15,984,200	\$ -	\$ 15,984,200	\$ -	\$ -
SEG Categorical Aids	\$ 56,284,200	\$ 56,284,200	\$ -	\$ 56,284,200	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Categorical Aids</b>	<b>\$ 1,374,995,900</b>	<b>\$ 1,619,941,600</b>	<b>\$ 244,945,700</b>	<b>\$ 1,764,534,300</b>	<b>\$ 389,538,400</b>	<b>\$ 634,484,100</b>
<b>General Aids</b>		7.3%		2.5%		8.6%
General Equalization Aids	\$ 4,903,590,000	\$ 5,260,500,000	\$ 356,910,000	\$ 5,390,700,000	\$ 487,110,000	\$ 844,020,000
Gen Aids- Hold Harmless (Sum Sufficient)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
High Poverty Aid	\$ 16,830,000	\$ 16,830,000	\$ -	\$ 16,830,000	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total General Aids</b>	<b>\$ 4,920,420,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,277,330,000</b>	<b>\$ 356,910,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,407,530,000</b>	<b>\$ 487,110,000</b>	<b>\$ 844,020,000</b>
Total State School Aids (no tax credit)	\$ 6,295,415,900	\$ 6,897,271,600	\$ 601,855,700	\$ 7,172,064,300	\$ 876,648,400	\$ 1,478,504,100
School Levy Tax Credit	\$ 1,090,000,000	\$ 1,090,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,090,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Cat/Gen School Aids &amp; Credits</b>	<b>\$ 7,385,415,900</b>	<b>\$ 7,987,271,600</b>	<b>\$ 601,855,700</b>	<b>\$ 8,262,064,300</b>	<b>\$ 876,648,400</b>	<b>\$ 1,478,504,100</b>
State Residential Schools	\$ 11,928,400	\$ 12,874,400	\$ 946,000	\$ 12,874,400	\$ 946,000	\$ 1,892,000
<b>Total State Support</b>	<b>\$ 7,397,344,300</b>	<b>\$ 8,000,146,000</b>	<b>\$ 602,801,700</b>	<b>\$ 8,274,938,700</b>	<b>\$ 877,594,400</b>	<b>\$ 1,480,396,100</b>
<b>Percent change to base:</b>			8.1%		11.9%	10.0%

## ALL DECISION ITEM NARRATIVES (DINs)

DIN #	Program	Fund Source	Purpose	CHANGE TO FY21 BASE			BIENNIAL CHANGE	
				FY21 Base	FY22	FY23	Total \$	% of base year doubled
3000	Standard Budget Adjustments	FED	State Operations		187,800	187,800	375,600	
3000	Standard Budget Adjustments	GPR	State Operations		634,600	634,600	1,269,200	
3000	Standard Budget Adjustments	PR	State Operations		410,900	410,900	821,800	
4001	Academic and Career Planning	GPR	State Operations	1,100,000	89,000	466,000	555,000	25.2%
4002	GED - subsidize testing fees	GPR	State Operations	-	400,000	900,000	1,300,000	
4002	GED - digitize paper records & automated system	GPR	State Operations	-	1,045,000	-	1,045,000	
4003	Mental Health - Training Programs	GPR	State Operations	420,000	500,000	500,000	1,000,000	119.0%
4004	Student Assessments (reallocation)	GPR	State Operations	18,558,400	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(4,000,000)	-10.8%
4005	WISElearn (reallocation)	GPR	State Operations	1,359,000	(150,000)	(200,000)	(350,000)	-12.9%
5000	Educator Licensing (see also DIN 7001)	PR	State Operations	3,651,400	-	-	-	0.0%
5001	Public Library System Aid	SEG	Public Libraries	16,013,100	2,500,000	4,000,000	6,500,000	20.3%
5002	Library Service Contracts	SEG	Public Libraries	1,342,400	12,900	25,300	38,200	1.4%
5003	Recollection Wisconsin	GPR	Public Libraries	-	150,000	300,000	450,000	
6000	General Equalization Aid	GPR	School Aids	4,903,590,000	356,910,000	487,110,000	844,020,000	8.6%
6001	Per Pupil Aid	GPR	School Aids	616,973,000	55,004,900	53,418,600	108,423,500	8.8%
6011	Mental Health and Student Wellness Aid	GPR	School Aids	6,000,000	22,500,000	24,000,000	46,500,000	387.5%
6012	School-based mental health services grants	GPR	School Aids	6,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000	7,000,000	53.8%
6015	Special Education Categorical Aid	GPR	School Aids	450,276,200	130,701,800	240,256,800	370,958,600	41.2%
6016	High Cost Special Education Aid	GPR	School Aids	9,353,800	2,986,200	9,711,400	12,697,600	67.9%
6017	Special Education Transition Readiness Grant	GPR	School Aids	1,500,000	1,500,000	3,000,000	4,500,000	150.0%
6021	Aid for English Learners	GPR	School Aids	8,589,800	18,287,200	18,287,200	36,574,400	212.9%
6022	Grants for ESL & BLBC Licensed Educators	GPR	School Aids	-	-	750,000	750,000	
6025	Sparsity Aid	GPR	School Aids	24,813,900	3,148,500	3,169,900	6,318,400	12.7%
6026	Pupil Transportation Aid	GPR	School Aids	2,400,000	-	-	-	0.0%
6027	High Cost Transportation Aid	GPR	School Aids	13,500,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	4,000,000	14.8%
6028	Transportation Aid for Students - OE	GPR	School Aids	454,200	1,765,600	1,993,000	3,758,600	413.8%
6028	Transportation Aid for Students - ECCP	GPR	School Aids	-	10,000	10,000	20,000	
6029	Out-of-School Time Grant (NEW)	GPR	School Aids	-	-	20,000,000	20,000,000	
6029	Out-of-School Time Grant (NEW) - position	GPR	State Operations	-	73,700	97,700	171,400	
6030	Drivers Education Aid (NEW)	GPR	School Aids	-	-	5,800,000	5,800,000	
6032	School Breakfast Reimbursement	GPR	School Aids	2,510,500	2,459,500	2,559,500	5,019,000	100.0%
6033	Supplemental Nutrition Aid (NEW)	GPR	School Aids	-	2,432,000	2,432,000	4,864,000	
6035	Reallocations (4k Start Up Grants)	GPR	School Aids	1,350,000	(1,350,000)	(1,350,000)	(2,700,000)	-100.0%
6051	ICS Reestimate	GPR	Charter/Private School Choice/SNSP	82,755,000	3,081,200	10,114,600	13,195,800	8.0%
6052	MPCP Reestimate	GPR	Charter/Private School Choice/SNSP	250,323,300	(240,900)	11,734,900	11,494,000	2.3%
6053	RPCP and WPCP Reestimates	GPR	Charter/Private School Choice/SNSP	137,512,600	22,600,000	53,376,100	75,976,100	27.6%
6054	SNSP Reestimate	GPR	Charter/Private School Choice/SNSP	17,084,900	10,562,300	24,689,400	35,251,700	103.2%
7001	Revenue Re-estimate (Educ. Lic. / APN 122)	PR	State Operations	4,820,000	958,600	958,600	1,917,200	19.9%
7001	Revenue Re-estimate (GED / APN 130)	PR	State Operations	158,100	(30,300)	(43,400)	(73,700)	-23.3%
7001	Revenue Re-estimate (PR-S / APN 232)	PR	School Aids	11,500,000	4,500,000	4,500,000	9,000,000	39.1%
<b>All DINs</b>					<b>647,140,500</b>	<b>987,300,900</b>	<b>1,634,441,400</b>	
<b>Budget by Purpose (All Fund Sources)</b>								
			School Aids	7,073,100,000	606,355,700	881,148,400	1,487,504,100	10.5%
			Public Libraries	17,355,500	2,662,900	4,325,300	6,988,200	20.1%
			Aids for Individuals & Organizations*	52,984,100	-	-	-	0.0%
			Charter/Private School Choice/SNSP	491,844,000	36,002,600	99,915,000	135,917,600	13.8%
			State Operations	151,616,100	2,119,300	1,912,200	4,031,500	1.3%
				<b>7,786,899,700</b>	<b>647,140,500</b>	<b>987,300,900</b>	<b>1,634,441,400</b>	<b>10.5%</b>
<b>Budget by Fund Source (All Purposes)</b>								
			FED	882,354,500	187,800	187,800	375,600	0.0%
			GPR	6,795,070,900	638,600,600	977,261,700	1,615,862,300	11.9%
			PR	47,535,500	5,839,200	5,826,100	11,665,300	12.3%
			SEG	61,938,800	2,512,900	4,025,300	6,538,200	5.3%
				<b>7,786,899,700</b>	<b>647,140,500</b>	<b>987,300,900</b>	<b>1,634,441,400</b>	<b>10.5%</b>

\*Aids for Individuals and Organizations includes: state-supported (GPR) appropriations for grant payments to individuals under the National Board Certification / Master Educator License Grant Program, and for Pre-College Scholarship; as well as grants to various organizations authorized under state law (Adult Literacy Grants, Elks and Easter Seals Center for Respite and Recreation, Grants for Bullying Prevention, Milwaukee Public Museum, Very Special Arts, College Possible, Inc., Special Olympics, and the Wisconsin Reading Corps). It also reflects federal grants that pass through the department to public libraries, private schools, child care and adult care centers, and non-profit organizations (primarily for federal nutrition programs).

# GENERAL AIDS & REVENUE LIMITS: BUILDING EQUITY & RESTORING TWO-THIRDS FUNDING FOR K12 SCHOOLS

## GENERAL AIDS

### General Equalization Aids

#### AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$356,910,000 GPR in FY22 and \$487,110,000 GPR in FY23.
- Modify the Special Adjustment Aid eligibility threshold from 85 percent to 90 percent of the prior year state general aid amount for aid distributed in FY22 and in FY23.
- Beginning with general aid distributed in FY23, modify current law to allow school districts to count 4K students enrolled in a full-day, five days/week program as 1.0 FTE in the pupil counts that are the basis of school districts' general aid membership, and the basis of state payments to private parental choice schools and independent charter schools. Current law permits 4K students to be counted as either 0.50 FTE or 0.60 FTE (if additional hours of outreach are provided), regardless of whether the 4K program is operated as a part-day or a full-day program.
- Incorporate technical changes to ensure that calculation of certain aid programs are consistent with legislative intent.

## REVENUE LIMITS

### Counting Pupils for Revenue Limit

#### AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request temporary changes to address the pandemic-driven decreases in enrollment in schools throughout the state:
  - Modify the pupil count for revenue limits by using the greater of 2020 or 2019 pupil counts for both summer and fall 2020; and
  - For one year only, treat the non-recurring revenue limit exemption for declining enrollment and the base hold-harmless adjustment, as calculated for the 2020-21 school year, as recurring adjustments going into the 2021-22 school year (then resume as non-recurring in FY23 and thereafter). This will restore the foregone base-building revenue authority that would have occurred had enrollments not dropped so precipitously in summer and fall 2020.

### Revenue Limit per Pupil

#### AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase for the per pupil revenue limit adjustment for school districts, to provide \$150 per pupil in FY22 and \$152.25 per pupil in FY23.
- Request that the per pupil adjustment amount be adjusted annually by the March over March change in the Consumer Price Index, as under prior law, beginning with the adjustment calculated in FY23.

### **Low Revenue Ceiling**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Increase the current law low-revenue ceiling threshold of \$10,000 per pupil (FY21), to \$10,150 in FY22 and then to \$10,303 in FY23.
- Request that the low revenue ceiling (LRC) amount be adjusted annually by the same amount (rounded up to the nearest dollar) as the revenue limit adjustment amount, beginning with the LRC calculated in FY23.

### **Counting Pupils for 4 Year Old Kindergarten (4K)**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Beginning in FY23, modify current law to allow school districts to count 4K students enrolled in a full-day, five days/week program as 1.0 FTE in the pupil counts that are the basis of school districts' general aid membership and revenue limit membership, and the basis of state payments to private parental choice schools and independent charter schools. Current law permits 4K students to be counted as either 0.50 FTE or 0.60 FTE (if additional hours of outreach are provided), regardless of whether the 4K program is operated as a part-day or a full-day program.

## ***TWO-THIRDS FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS***

### **Restore Two-Thirds Funding for Schools**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Restore the state's commitment to funding two-thirds of K-12 education, as under prior law by providing requisite general and categorical aids to fulfill the former "two-thirds" funding definition that was in effect from FY97–FY03, while holding property taxes increases to zero.

## **CATEGORICAL AIDS**

### **Per Pupil Aid Programs**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request increases of \$57,504,900 GPR in FY22 and \$55,918,600 GPR in FY23 in the appropriation for Per Pupil Aid, to reflect the estimated amount required to provide school districts with \$750 per revenue limit member in FY22 and in FY23. In FY21, districts are eligible for a total of \$745/member, comprised of \$742/member from the Per Pupil Aid program and \$3/member from the Supplemental Per Pupil Aid. The department's request combines the base funding for the two aid programs into Per Pupil Aid.
- The requested amounts reflects \$52,655,900 GPR in FY22 and \$52,532,100 GPR in FY23 to provide an additional \$150 per pupil (above the \$750 base payment) for economically disadvantaged students.
- Request decreases of \$2,500,000 GPR in FY22 and in FY23, reflecting the request to eliminate funding for the current law Supplemental Per Pupil Aid (funding would be consolidated with the Per Pupil Aid appropriation).

## **PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH AND STUDENT WELLNESS**

### **Mental Health and Student Wellness Categorical Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$22,500,000 GPR in FY22 and \$24,000,000 GPR in FY23 to expand the categorical aid for school mental health programs and provide reimbursements on the basis of expenditures for all pupil services categories, as opposed to just school social workers (i.e., expenditures for school counselors, school nurses, and school psychologists would be aidable).
- Modify the program so all school districts, independent charter schools, and private parental choice schools with expenditures for pupil support staff are eligible to receive funding, i.e., remove the funding tiers currently in use. The proposed funding is sufficient to reimburse 10 percent of estimated total pupil services expenditures.
- Rename the appropriation to "Mental health and student wellness aid" to reflect the proposal to include all pupil support staff expenditures as eligible for aid, and the larger goal of promoting student wellness.

### **School-Based Mental Health Collaborative Grant Program**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$3,500,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY22, to expand the School-Based Mental Health Services Grant program, in order to support more school districts and independent charter schools in connecting youth to needed mental health services.
- Modify Wis. Stat. sec. 115.367 (1) to allow more school districts to access the grant program. Replacing "community mental health agencies" with "mental health providers" would enable districts to meet grant requirements by partnering with individual providers and by employing telehealth or online strategies.

### **Mental Health Training Programs**

See also "[Mental Health Training Support](#)" under "[AGENCY ADMINISTRATION](#)".

## ***SPECIAL EDUCATION***

### **Special Education Categorical Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$130,701,800 GPR in FY22 and \$240,256,800 GPR in FY23 to increase the reimbursement rate for aidable special education costs, from approximately 28 percent currently, to 35 percent in FY22 and 40 percent in FY23.
- Request that the appropriation type be changed to sum sufficient.
- Specify targeted reimbursement rates in statute: 35 percent in FY22, 40 percent in FY23, 50 percent in FY24, and 60 percent in FY25.

### **High-Cost Special Education**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$2,986,200 GPR in FY22 and \$9,711,400 GPR in FY23 to increase the reimbursement rate from approximately 31 percent currently to 40 percent in FY22 and 60 percent in FY23.
- Request that the appropriation type be changed to sum sufficient to allow all eligible claims to be fully paid and modify the program to allow for reimbursement of 100 percent of eligible prior year costs above the \$30,000 per student high cost threshold.
- Specify targeted reimbursement rates in statute: 40 percent in FY22, 60 percent in FY23, 80 percent in FY24, and 100 percent in FY25.

### **Special Education – Transitions Readiness Investment Grants**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$1,500,000 GPR in FY22 and \$3,500,000 GPR in FY23 to respectively expand the Transition Readiness Grant program from \$1,500,000 to \$3,000,000 and \$4,500,000 annually.

## ***INVESTING IN RURAL SCHOOLS***

### **Sparsity Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$3,148,500 GPR in FY22 and \$3,169,900 in FY23 to fully fund the Sparsity Aid categorical aid program, based on projected membership in eligible school districts at \$400 member, and to create a second tier of eligibility within the program to expand Sparsity Aid to school districts that meet the sparsity criteria (fewer than ten members per square mile) and have 746 to 1,000 members. Districts meeting the second tier criteria would be eligible to receive aid in the amount of \$100 per member.
- Request a statutory change to the Sparsity Aid program to provide the stopgap payment for one year to districts that lose eligibility for Sparsity Aid because the district no longer meets the sparsity criteria.

### **Pupil Transportation Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request a statutory change to the Pupil Transportation Aid program to increase the amount paid to school districts and independent charter schools, for each student transported over 12 miles to and from the school attended in the regular school year, from \$365 to \$375.
- Request a statutory change to eliminate the requirement that the department prorate aid payments for summer and interim session transportation based on the number of days a student rides the bus.

### **High Cost Pupil Transportation Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$2,000,000 GPR in FY22 and FY23 to increase the reimbursement rate for the High Cost Transportation Aid categorical aid program from 91.1 percent in FY21 to 100 percent of eligible expenditures.
- Request a statutory change to eliminate the \$200,000 cap on total stopgap payments, whereby school districts that have lost eligibility for High Cost Transportation Aid receive an aid payment equal to 50 percent of its prior year aid award (prorated, if necessary).

## ***BILINGUAL-BICULTURAL EDUCATION / SUPPORTING ENGLISH LEARNERS***

### **Bilingual-Bicultural Aid / Aid for English Learners**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$18,287,200 GPR in FY22 and FY23 to support English Learners (ELs) in school districts across the state. Include independent charter schools as eligible for state aid.
- Establish a funding floor of \$10,000 for each district serving at least one, and up to 20, English Learners, and provide \$500 for each additional EL served in the school district.
- Eliminate the current law set-aside funding for school districts in which ELs make up more than 15 percent of their total student enrollment.
- Provide for a temporary “hold harmless” payment for districts that do not receive more state aid under the proposed new EL categorical aid program than they received in FY21 under current law.
- Rename the appropriation from “Bilingual-bicultural education aids” to “English learner categorical aid” to better reflect the nature of and participants in the state aid program.

### **Capacity Building Grants for ESL and BLBC Licensed Educators (New Program)**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$750,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY23, to create a new discretionary grant program to increase the capacity of English Learner educational programming in schools. Specifically, the grants are intended to increase the number of English Learner- and Bilingual-licensed educators.

## **TARGETED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND OTHER CATEGORICAL AIDS**

### **Out-of-School Time (OST) Grant Program (New Program)**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$20,000,000 GPR, beginning in FY23, to create a new state-funded grant program that would provide ongoing support to out-of-school time programs. The primary goal will be to create OST programs that support middle and high school students, but at least 30 percent of funding each year will be reserved for programs that serve elementary school students.

### **Driver Education Aid (New Program)**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$5,800,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY23, to create a new categorical aid program to offset the costs of providing driver education (DE) instruction.
- School districts, independent charter schools, Cooperative Educational Services Agencies (CESAs) [collectively, LEAs], and private DE providers would be eligible to receive state aid based on the number of economically disadvantaged students who, in the prior school year, completed a department-approved DE course of instruction, including both in-classroom and behind the wheel instruction (BTW).
- The LEA or private DE provider would be eligible to receive state aid in an amount equal to the cost of the classroom and BTW instruction for each qualified students, provided the LEA or private provider waives the fee normally charged for DE instruction, for the qualified student(s).

### **School Breakfast Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$2,789,500 GPR in FY20 and \$2,889,500 in FY21 to increase the state reimbursement rate for the School Breakfast Program (SBP) to 15.0 cents for each breakfast served to school districts and private schools.
- Expand eligibility for the program to independent charter schools, the state's residential schools, and residential care centers for children and youth (RCCs). The amount requested includes \$120,000 GPR annually for reimbursements under the SBP at 15.0 cents for each breakfast served in these institutions.

### **Supplemental Nutrition Aid (New Program)**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$2,432,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY22, for a new categorical aid program that would provide reimbursement for meals served to students who are eligible for a reduced-price meal and would prohibit charging a price to students for a reduced-price meal (i.e., make meals free for these students).
- The proposed aid would be available to all school districts, independent charter schools, private schools, and tribal schools, as well as the state's residential schools and Residential Care Centers (RCC).
- The department further proposes that the appropriation be created as sum-sufficient, to ensure that all LEAs are reimbursed for the full amount for which they are eligible for providing nutritious meals to students in schools throughout the state.



### **Aid for Transportation Costs – Open Enrollment and the Early College Credit Program**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- The department requests \$1,765,600 GPR in FY22 and \$1,993,000 GPR in FY23 to fully fund the appropriation for transportation aid for students enrolled in a nonresident school district under the public school Open Enrollment (OE) program. The department also requests \$10,000 GPR in FY22 and \$10,000 GPR in FY23 for transportation aid payments for students participating in the Early College Credit Program (ECCP).
- The department further requests a statutory language change to create two separate appropriations for these programs, to facilitate administration of the aid programs.
- Request a statutory change to the appropriation language governing the program that provides aid to parents who incur transportation costs related to their child (or children) participating in the Open Enrollment program and/or the ECCP to ensure transparency in the administration of both programs.
- Reduce the appropriation by \$20,000 GPR in both FY20 and FY21 as an offset to the department's request to provide \$20,000 GPR in both FY20 and FY21 in a new, annual appropriation specifically for ECCP transportation aid payments.

# INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOLS, PRIVATE SCHOOL PARENTAL CHOICE, SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, AND OPEN ENROLLMENT

## ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT TO PER PUPIL PAYMENT

### Adjustment to Per Pupil Payments

#### AGENCY REQUEST:

- Under current law, the per-pupil payment amount for the programs listed below is adjusted according to the formula specified in state law. The adjustment is equal to the change in appropriations for categorical aids for schools (over prior year) divided by prior year revenue limit membership plus the per-pupil revenue limit adjustment for school districts.
  - Under the department's budget request, the total increase in school aids appropriations, divided by the prior year's revenue limit membership, is \$298 in FY22 and \$175 in FY23.
  - Combined with the proposed per-pupil revenue limit adjustments of \$150 in FY22 and \$152.25 in FY23, the adjustment to the per-pupil payments for each of the programs listed below would be \$448 in FY22 and \$327 in FY23.

#### Per Pupil Payments

<u>Program</u>	<u>Per Pupil Payment</u>		
	<u>FY19 (Base)</u>	<u>FY20</u>	<u>FY21</u>
Public School Open Enrollment	\$7,983	\$8,573	\$8,900
Private School Choice (grades K-8)	\$8,158	\$8,748	\$9,075
Private School Choice (grades 9-12)	\$8,804	\$9,394	\$9,721
Independent Charter Schools*	\$9,023	\$9,613	\$9,940
Special Education Open Enrollment	\$12,835	\$13,425	\$13,752
Special Needs Scholarship Program	\$12,835	\$13,425	\$13,752

\*Under current law, the per-pupil payment for independent charter schools authorized by a tribal college is calculated according to a different formula.

## ***INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM REESTIMATE***

### **Payment Reestimates**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request increases of \$2,800,700 GPR in FY22 and \$8,693,000 GPR in FY23, to reflect estimates for state aid payments for the legacy 2r independent charter schools (ICS) authorized by the City of Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee, and the University of Wisconsin—Parkside, and for the newly opened ICS authorized by the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College, under Wis. Stat. sec. 118.40 (2r).
- Request increases of \$280,500 GPR in FY22 and \$1,421,600 GPR in FY23 to reflect estimates for state aid payments for the new 2x ICS authorized by the Office of Educational Opportunity (OEO) within the University of Wisconsin System (UWS), under Wis. Stat. sec. 118.40 (2x).

### **Program Language Changes**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- The department requests changes to the statutory language governing the ICS programs:
  - Modify the per pupil payment for students enrolled in an ICS authorized by a tribal college to be equal to the payment received for students enrolled in all the other ICS in the state; this will have the impact of raising the payment for students enrolled in a tribal college authorized ICS.
  - Explicitly permit students at an ICS high school to be eligible to participate in the Early College Credit Program under Wis. Stat. sec 118.55.
  - Eliminate the requirement for the report under Wis. Stat. sec. 118.40 (3m) (f).

## **MILWAUKEE PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAM REESTIMATE**

### **Payment Reestimate**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Requests a decrease of \$240,900 GPR in FY22 and an increase \$11,734,900 GPR in FY23, to reflect estimates for state aid payments to private schools participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP).

### **Program Language Changes**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Repeal Wis. Stats. Sec. 121.137, an unnecessary provision under current law that requires that 6.6 percent of the state general aid reduction to MPS related to the MPCP be paid directly to the City of Milwaukee and then requires the City to pay that same amount back to MPS.

## **RACINE AND WISCONSIN PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAMS REESTIMATES**

### **Payment Reestimate**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request increases of \$22,600,000 GPR in FY22 and \$53,376,100 GPR in FY23, to reflect estimates for state aid payments to private schools participating in the Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP) and the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP).

## **SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM REESTIMATE**

### **Payment Reestimate**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request increases of \$10,562,300 GPR in FY22 and \$24,689,400 GPR in FY23, to reflect estimates for state aid payments to private schools participating in the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP).

### **Program Language Changes**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Eliminate provisions in current law that provide for payments to be based on an actual cost basis, rather than the per pupil payment amount specified in statute.
  - Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, a private school may submit a financial statement, along with documentation, disclosing the actual costs for educating an SNSP student to the department. The department is required to share the statement of actual cost with the student's resident school district.
  - If the actual costs included on the statement are greater than the statutory payment under the SNSP program, then, in the following fiscal year, the general state aid reduction incurred by the resident school district to pay the private school for the SNSP will be equal to the actual cost on the statement

for that SNSP student, up to an amount equal to 150 percent of the statutory payment under the SNSP (\$20,138 for FY22 and \$20,628 for FY23). The department then must pay the private school the actual cost amount in the following year, up to 150 percent of the statutory payment (offset by the aid reduction to the resident school district)

- If the actual cost exceeds that amount, the department must also provide aid equal to 90 percent of the actual costs that exceed the aid reduction incurred by the resident school district. The school district of residence receives a revenue limit exemption equal to the aid reduction amount (thus, the aid loss can be made up via the district's tax levy).
- The provisions related to the payments create administrative/operational issues for schools, parents, school districts, and the department. Specifically, combining a prior year cost payment requirement with a current year payment requirement creates financial hardship and uncertainty for schools and districts. Additionally, neither the department nor the school district of residence have the authority to question the contents of the financial statement. That is, there is no process for the statements to be reviewed, or for the data to be verified of data or audited. This is inconsistent with every other state aid program.

## ***SPECIAL EDUCATION OPEN ENROLLMENT***

### **Program Language Changes**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Eliminate provisions in current law that provide for payments to be based on an actual cost basis.
  - Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, a school district may submit a financial statement disclosing the actual costs of providing a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for a student with a disability who enrolls in the school district via open enrollment to the department. The department is required to share the statement of actual cost with the student's resident school district.
  - If the actual costs included on the statement are greater than the statutory payment under the SEOE program, then, in the following fiscal year, the general state aid reduction incurred by the resident school district to pay SEOE transfer amount will be equal to the actual cost on the statement for that SEOE student, up to \$30,000. The school district of residence counts that SEOE student for revenue limits, thereby generating taxing authority on behalf of the SEOE student for whom the district's aid is reduced. However, to the extent that the actual cost amount exceeds the resident district's own revenue limit per pupil (for which the statewide average was \$10,801 in FY21), the aid reduction for the SEOE student is not recovered by the school district via the tax levy.
  - The provisions related to the payments create several administrative and operational issues for schools, parents, school districts, and the department. Specifically, combining a prior year cost payment requirement with a current year payment requirement creates financial hardship and uncertainty for schools and districts. Additionally, neither the department nor the school district of residence have the authority to question the contents of the financial statement. That is, there is no process for the statements to be reviewed, or for the data to be verified of data or audited. This is inconsistent with every other state aid program.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES

### Public Library System Aid

#### AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$2,500,000 SEG in FY22 and \$4,000,000 SEG in FY23 for aid to public library systems, to support the operations and maintenance of public library services.

### Library Service Contracts

#### AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$12,900 SEG in FY22 and \$25,300 SEG in FY23 to fully fund the estimated costs of the library service contracts maintained by the department.

### Recollection Wisconsin

#### AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$150,000 GPR in FY22 and \$300,000 GPR in FY23 to provide a dedicated funding source for Recollection Wisconsin.

### WISELearn (Reallocation)

#### AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request decreases in the appropriation for WISELearn (the digital learning portal) by \$150,000 GPR in FY22 and by \$200,000 GPR in FY23, and to reallocate the GPR budget authority for a dedicated funding source for Recollection Wisconsin, as proposed by the department in its 2021-23 biennial budget request.

## **AGENCY ADMINISTRATION**

### **Academic and Career Planning**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request increases of \$89,000 GPR in FY22 and \$466,000 GPR in FY23 to maintain the current level of services to school districts across the state under the Academic and Career Planning program and to study the impact of Academic and Career Planning on student outcomes.

### **Educator Licensing Appropriation**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Change the appropriation for educator licensing from an annual, sum certain appropriation, to a continuing appropriation.
- Eliminate the statutory requirement that the department lapse 10 percent of revenue collected from the licensing application fees to the state's general fund at the end of each fiscal year.

### **General Educational Degree (GED) Test Subsidy and Data Modernization (New Program)**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request increases of \$400,000 GPR in FY22 and \$900,000 GPR in FY23 in a new sum sufficient appropriation to subsidize testing fees for Wisconsin residents taking the GED tests.
- Request an increase of \$1,045,000 GPR in FY22 in a new biennial appropriation to create an automated, online GED credentialing system and to digitize paper GED/HSED (High School Equivalency Diploma) records. The biennial nature of this appropriation ensures that the work on these two vital efforts can be conducted across fiscal years of the biennium.

### **Mental Health Training Programs**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$500,000 GPR in FY22 and FY23 to increase support for existing mental health training programs, to expand the types of mental health trainings that can be offered, and to increase the capacity of the WISH Center to deliver trainings.
- Modify language under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.28 (63) to reflect the broadened scope of trainings for which the department would use funding to include bullying prevention and violence prevention, as well as to broaden training offerings to include other evidenced-based strategies beyond those specified under current law.

### **Bullying Prevention Grant**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Modify language under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.28 (45) to specify that the organization that was awarded a grant in FY21 would continue to receive the grant in FY22 and thereafter. The grant is provided to a non-profit organization to provide training and an online bullying prevention curriculum for pupils in grades

kindergarten to 8. The grant was awarded to the Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin (CHW) – the only applicant for the grant each year – for its online bullying prevention curriculum (“ActNow!”).

#### **Out-of-School Time Grant Program Position Authority**

##### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request increases of \$73,700 GPR in FY22 and \$97,700 GPR in FY23 and a 1.0 FTE GPR permanent position beginning in FY22 to support the proposed Out-of-School Time grant program.

#### **Pupil Assessments (Reallocation)**

##### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request decreases in the appropriation for Pupil Assessment of \$2,000,000 GPR in FY22 and in FY23 as a reestimate of the amount needed to support contracts for state-required pupil assessments; reallocate the GPR budget authority for other proposals included in the department’s budget request.

		REQUEST (reallocation)		
DIN	PROPOSAL	FY22	FY23	BIENNIAL
4001	Academic and Career Planning	\$ 89,000	\$ 466,000	\$ 555,000
4002	GED/HSED Test Fee Subsidy & Data Modernization	\$1,445,000	\$ 900,000	\$2,445,000
4003	Mental Health Training Programs	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$1,000,000
5003	Recollection Wisconsin*	\$ 0	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,034,000</b>	<b>\$1,966,000</b>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>
4004	<b>Reallocation from Pupil Assessments</b>	<b>-\$2,000,000</b>	<b>-\$2,000,000</b>	<b>-\$4,000,000</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 34,000</b>	<b>-\$ 34,000</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

\*The Recollection Wisconsin proposal is also funded in part with a reduction to the department’s appropriation for WISELearn.



## **Revenue Reestimates**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Modify budget authority for Program Revenue (PR) appropriations by \$5,428,300 PR in FY22 and \$5,415,200 PR in FY23 to reflect projected revenues and expenditures for the following appropriations:
  - Teacher licenses fee revenue
  - GED/HSED credential fee revenue
  - Revenues from other state agencies

## **Standard Budget Adjustments**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

Request adjustments to the agency's base to reflect standard budget adjustments for:

- Turnover reduction (-\$996,400 GPR and -\$966,400 FED, in FY22 and FY23).
- Full funding of continuing salaries and fringe (\$741,400 GPR, \$105,100 PR, \$291,600 PR-S, and \$700,200 FED, in FY22 and FY23).
- Overtime (\$274,000 GPR, \$3,600 PR, \$8,500 PR-S, and \$41,900 FED, in FY22 and FY23).
- Night and weekend differential (\$55,300 GPR, \$200 PR-S, and \$300 FED, in FY22 and FY23).
- Full funding of lease and directed moves costs (\$4,400 GPR and -\$34,600 FED in FY22 and \$4,400 GPR and -\$34,600 FED in FY23).
- Request a modification to the language to specify that the organization that was awarded a grant under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.28 (45) would continue to receive the grant in FY20 and thereafter. The grant is provided to a non-profit organization to provide training and an online bullying prevention curriculum for pupils in grades kindergarten to 8. The grant was awarded to the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin (CHW) – the only applicant for the grant in both years – for its online bullying prevention curriculum ("ActNow!"), in both FY20 and FY21.

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